

29<sup>th</sup> Sep, 2011**GOI proposes to bring National Mission on Teachers' Education in 12th Five year plan.....**

Government of India has proposed to bring a National Mission on Teachers' Education in the 12th Five Year Plan.

**The Mission is aimed to impart high quality training to teachers to improve teaching standards in the country.** This was revealed by Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal at a function in New Delhi on 28<sup>th</sup> Sep, 2011

**This mission will help in bridging the huge gap between the demand and supply of quality teachers in the nation.** He said that well trained teachers are essential to impart quality education to children and would lead to the successful implementation of the Right to Education Act.

Further Mr Sibal also **emphasized the need for enhanced use of Information technology** in the education system. He said information technology is a great empowering tool for the children.

**Mr Sibal also announced that the Government's initiative of providing a computer tablet costing only 35 US Dollars to all students in schools and colleges will come into effect from next month.**

**This is not just a dream, it is a reality," he added.**

**Officials in the Education Ministry said the low-cost device will be launched on October 5,2011**

Sibal said the name has already been finalised for the device and will announced at the launch.

He, however, did not elaborate about the the device, which is being billed as the cheapest computer globally.

**The computer will bring in immense benefits to the students and will be connected to the net and perform "all the functions that any other computer can perform.**

That's an enormously empowering tool", he said.

**He said while it gives scope to a child to transcend boundaries and acquire knowledge using the net, IT can also be used to root out corruption from the country.**

The Minister, however, expressed concern over the quality of teaching in educational institutes and teachers, regretting that "we just don't have that quality teacher out there".



"He said that they are proposing to the Government in 12th plan to make it a very central mission in one its many missions," he said.

The prototype of the low cost computing device which Sibal had unveiled in July last year is likely to be a 5/7/9 inch touch screen gadget.

It would be packed with internet browsers, PDF reader, video conferencing facilities, open office, sci-lab, media player, remote device management capability, multimedia input-output interface option, and multiple content viewers

The tablet also comes with a solar-power option that could make it more feasible for rural areas.

*Source: PTI, Mid day, Prasar Bharati*



*First Look Computer Tablet for students*

**“We believe that this is a significant development and will give the boost to digital content space players like Educomp, Everonn, Navneet, Sundaram which are expected to be benefitted from the same since the digital content can be preloaded on the computer tablet, ICT players will tend to loose from this initiative”.**

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